GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2888
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
PAGLADIA PROJECT
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Pagladia Project in Assam alongwith its original sanctioned cost and funds released so far;

(b) the causes of delay in execution of project and cost escalation so far;

(c) the remedial steps being taken by the Union Government for early completion of the project; and

(d) the contribution made so far by the State Government of Assam in the said project?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b) Preparatory works like preparation of tender drawings and documents, construction of colony, approach roads, etc. for the Pagladiya dam project have been carried out by Brahmaputra Board. The project was held up due to opposition from a section of project affected people (PAP) in carrying out the Zirat survey by Government of Assam on the basis of which Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) is finalized. The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs. 542.90 crore at 1999 price level. An amount of Rs. 46.47 crore has been released to Brahmaputra Board for the project since 2000-01 till December,2006. However, the project authorities have refunded back Rs. 14.00 crore to Government of India due to non-utilization.The delay in execution of project has been due to non completion of Zirat Survey and non availability of land for the project. The revised cost estimate of the project at January, 2004 price level is Rs. 1069.40 crore. The increase in cost estimate is mainly due to change in design, additional requirement as per actual conditions and price escalation since last estimate.

(c)&(d) The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Brahmaputra Board is pursuing the matter with Government of Assam for completion of the Zirat survey and making the land available for the project. Government of Assam had formed a Cabinet Committee on implementation of the project. Two meetings of the Committee were held so far. The Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) has intimated Brahmaputra Board in December,2006 that the BTC has no objection for the implementation of the project .Government of Assam have also taken up initiatives to remove the hurdle in the implementation of the project and recently instructed the Civil Administration to prepare fresh land acquisition proposal for the project.